

PERMANENT INTERNET TAX  
FREEDOM ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. ERIK PAULSEN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 2014*

Mr. PAULSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3086, the Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act. This legislation makes permanent the ban on state and local taxation of Internet access. This is vital to ensuring continued economic growth powered by the Internet and digital economy.

I am encouraged by the bipartisan support for this legislation and am hopeful that it will be enacted into law before the November 1 expiration date.

As a former state legislator and Minnesota House Majority Leader, I am a strong believer in states' rights. In addition to the legislation before the House today, I would also like to highlight the efforts of my colleagues JASON CHAFFETZ, STEVE WOMACK, SUZAN DELBENE, JACKIE SPEIER, and other members of the Judiciary Committee.

They are working diligently on similar states' rights legislation to address federal law for sales made over the Internet. This is important, because purchasing items on the Internet should not offer tax breaks that are not extended to brick and mortar retailers. States should be encouraged to compete with one another by keeping tax rates low, not by promoting one form of commerce over another.

The Internet Tax Freedom Act has helped e-commerce grow to over \$220 billion this year. And with 20 percent annual growth projected through 2017, it's time to update outdated federal interstate commerce laws to ensure all retailers are treated the same.

The tax code should not pick winners and losers. As commerce is conducted on the Internet, we should ensure there is an even playing field for all businesses.

In fact, I've heard from many retailers in my home state of Minnesota about the importance of this legislation to their ability to compete on a level playing field.

Madam Speaker, I'm hopeful this body will also consider this legislation before the end of the year.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 16, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,591,980,437,201.71. We've added \$6,965,103,388,288.63 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

FOR CYPRUS REUNIFICATION

**HON. GRACE MENG**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 16, 2014*

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for ending the separation of Cyprus which has existed since 1974. It is time to finally end the 40 year division of Cyprus and I am hopeful that the Cyprus settlement talks will accomplish that critical goal. The reunification of Cyprus is among the most pressing foreign policy matters that exist in the world today.

A reunited Cyprus would finally end the occupation and injustice that has existed on the island for far too long. Only by solving this crisis can Greek and Turkish Cypriots live side by side in peace, and work together to improve stability and prosperity in the region. It is critical that Congress express its support for a resolution and that our country stand ready to provide assistance in any way it can. A united and unified Cyprus is in America's interest, with many benefits to our economy, bilateral relations and national security.

I urge all parties involved in reunification talks to continue working towards a lasting solution. While there is not yet light at the end of the tunnel, there are some bright spots peeking through. I look forward to the negotiations moving forward and hope that one day soon, a divided Cyprus will only exist in the history books.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 16, 2014*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent during the week of July 7, 2014. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Wednesday, July 9, 2014: H.R. 4923—Energy and Water Development and related agencies Appropriations Act 2015 Amendments: rollcall No. 371—McAllister Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 372—Hahn Amendment “aye”; rollcall No. 373—Gosar Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 374—Wenstrup Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 375—Swalwell Amendment “aye”; rollcall No. 376—Byrne Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 377—McClintock Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 378—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Concur in the Senate Amendments “aye.”

Thursday, July 10, 2014: rollcall No. 379—McClintock Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 380—Bonamici Amendment “aye”; rollcall No. 381—Speier Amendment “aye”; rollcall No. 382—Titus Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 383—Schiff Amendment “aye”; rollcall No. 384—Quigley Amendment “aye”; rollcall No. 385—Chabot Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 386—Titus Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 387—DeLauro Amendment “aye”; rollcall No. 388—King Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 389—Lankford Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 390—Cassidy Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 391—Providing for consideration of H.R. 5016 “aye”; rollcall No. 392—Providing for consideration of H.R. 5016 “nay”; rollcall No. 393—

Burgess Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 394—LaMalfa Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 395—Stockman Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 396—Stockman Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 397—McKinley Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 398—Blackburn Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 399—Gosar Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 400—Hudson Amendment “nay”; rollcall No. 401—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions “aye”; rollcall No. 402—On Passage “nay.”

Friday, July 11, 2014: H.R. 4718—rollcall No. 403—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions “aye”; rollcall No. 404—On Passage “nay.”

CONGRATULATING DANSBY SWANSON, 2014 COLLEGE WORLD SERIES' MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 16, 2014*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Marietta native, Marietta High School Alumnus, and Vanderbilt second baseman, Dansby Swanson, on his accomplishments in the 2014 NCAA College World Series.

Swanson was awarded the College World Series' Most Outstanding Player Award and was an incredible asset in helping Vanderbilt clinch its first College World Series Championship.

Throughout the 2014 season, Swanson became one of the key players on Vanderbilt's tremendously talented roster and was key in Vandy's 3-2 victory over the University of Virginia in the final to cap off a landmark 50 win season.

Just a sophomore, Swanson batted .323 with five runs scored and two RBI in Omaha—the most impressive performance of any player in the tournament.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Georgia's 11th Congressional District, I applaud Dansby for his achievement and look forward to his future successes. I extend my enthusiastic congratulations to him on achieving the highest level of recognition possible in the NCAA College World Series.

HONORING MARVIN HAMMOND

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 16, 2014*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Marvin Hammond, a friend of mine for more than 50 years, passed away this past Saturday in Knoxville, Tennessee. Marvin was one of the finest men I have ever known.

Marvin was 71 and had a long and successful career as an executive for the Knoxville Utilities Board and as the top official of the Hallsdale-Powell Utility District.

I first got to know Marvin when he was the manager of Holston High School athletic teams. I played a lot of sports and sold programs, popcorn, and soft drinks at many games for the University of Tennessee and Knoxville professional teams. Marvin was at many of these games.